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30. A method of generating billing data for subscribers in a (New) telecommunications system, said method comprising:

storing subscriber records for a plurality of groups of subscribers, each of said groups comprising a plurality of subscribers for which a combined subscription is held, said groups comprising different numbers of subscribers;

relating a shared usage allocation of an original magnitude to each of said groups at the start of each of a series of predetermined periods, the original magnitude of each of said shared usage allocation being predetermined in accordance with the subscription type held for each group, respectively; and

analyzing call data so as to apply one of a number of different predetermined call charging tariffs to a call made by a subscriber in one of said groups, in dependence of the group of which the subscriber is a member, in order to generate charging data for said call and to allow a common charging tariff to be applied for each subscriber in a group for which a combined subscription is held when said shared usage allocation has been exhausted.

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments, Claims 27-30 are pending in this application. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the foregoing amendments, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 12/6/0(

By:

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